



For Release: Tuesday, June 12, 2018

18-1013-SAN

WESTERN INFORMATION OFFICE: San Francisco, Calif.

Technical information: (415) 625-2270 BLSinfoSF@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/west

Media contact: (415) 625-2270

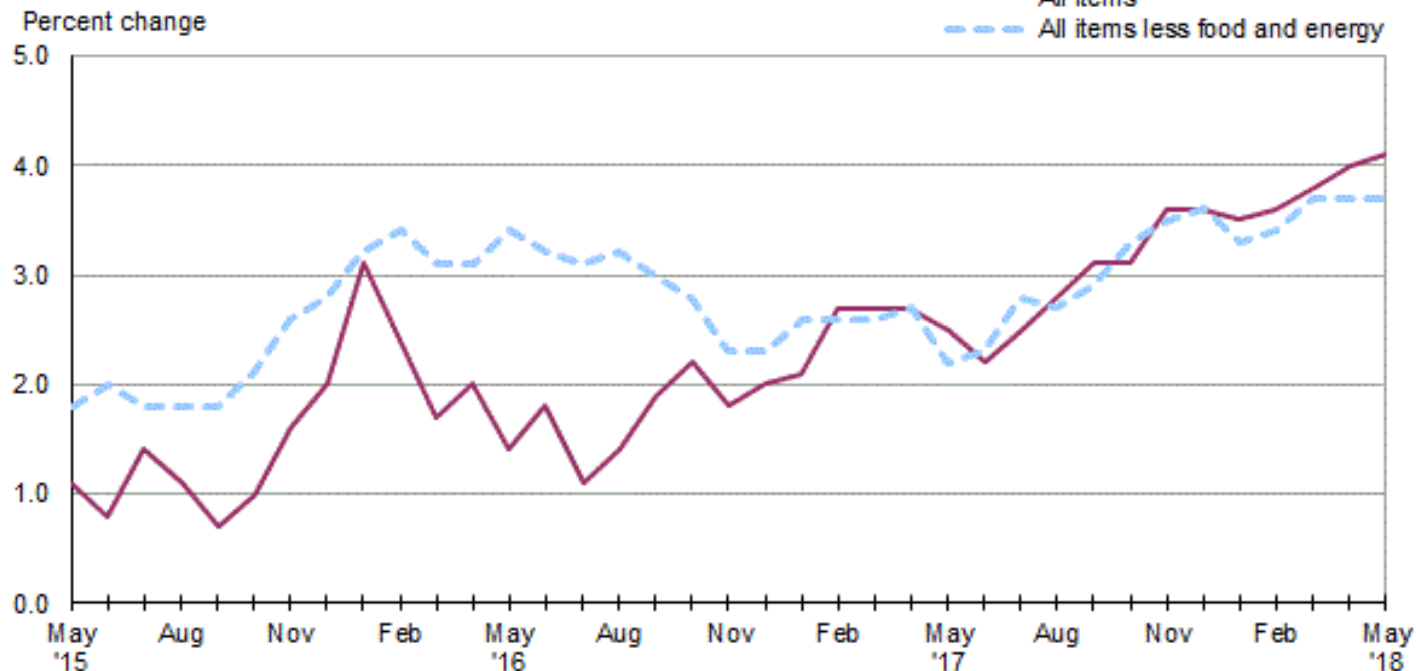
Consumer Price Index, Los Angeles area — May 2018

Area prices were up 0.4 percent over the past month, up 4.1 percent from a year ago

Prices in the Los Angeles area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), rose 0.4 percent in May, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See [table A](#).) Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Richard Holden noted that the May increase was influenced by higher prices for shelter and gasoline. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the CPI-U increased 4.1 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) Energy prices jumped 14.5 percent, largely the result of an increase in the price of gasoline. The index for all items less food and energy rose 3.7 percent over the year. (See [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA, May 2015–May 2018



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices declined 0.4 percent for the month of May. (See [table 1](#).) Prices for food at home decreased 0.8 percent, but prices for food away from home inched up 0.1 percent for the same period.

Over the year, food prices advanced 1.6 percent. Prices for food away from home rose 3.4 percent since a year ago, and prices for food at home inched up 0.1 percent.

Energy

The energy index advanced 4.2 percent over the month. The increase was mainly due to higher prices for gasoline (3.8 percent). Prices for natural gas service jumped 22.1 percent, while prices for electricity were unchanged for the same period.

Energy prices jumped 14.5 percent over the year, largely due to higher prices for gasoline (23.4 percent). Prices paid for electricity rose 2.4 percent, but prices for natural gas service declined 5.9 percent during the past year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.2 percent in May. Higher prices for recreation (1.5 percent) and shelter (0.6 percent) were partially offset by lower prices for apparel (-5.6 percent) and household furnishings and operations (-1.2 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy rose 3.7 percent. Components contributing to the increase included shelter (5.6 percent) and medical care (2.5 percent). Partly offsetting the increases were price declines in recreation (-1.6 percent) and household furnishings and operations (-0.4 percent).

Table A. Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim CPI-U monthly and annual percent changes (not seasonally adjusted)

Month	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual
January.....	0.8	2.0	0.5	0.8	-0.3	-0.1	0.7	3.1	0.9	2.1	0.8	3.5
February.....	0.7	2.2	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.1	0.0	2.4	0.6	2.7	0.7	3.6
March.....	0.1	1.3	0.6	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.3	1.7	0.3	2.7	0.4	3.8
April.....	-0.4	0.9	0.0	1.4	-0.1	0.5	0.2	2.0	0.2	2.7	0.4	4.0
May.....	0.1	1.0	0.4	1.7	1.0	1.1	0.5	1.4	0.3	2.5	0.4	4.1
June.....	-0.1	1.4	0.1	1.8	-0.3	0.8	0.1	1.8	-0.2	2.2		
July.....	-0.1	1.3	0.1	2.0	0.7	1.4	0.0	1.1	0.3	2.5		
August.....	0.1	0.8	-0.1	1.8	-0.3	1.1	0.0	1.4	0.3	2.8		
September.....	0.2	0.6	0.0	1.7	-0.4	0.7	0.2	1.9	0.4	3.1		
October.....	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	1.4	0.2	1.0	0.4	2.2	0.4	3.1		
November.....	-0.5	0.4	-0.7	1.3	0.0	1.6	-0.4	1.8	0.1	3.6		
December.....	0.0	1.1	-0.5	0.7	-0.1	2.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	3.6		

The June 2018 Consumer Price Index for the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim area is scheduled to be released on July 12, 2018.

Consumer Price Index Geographic Revision for 2018

In January 2018, BLS introduced a new geographic area sample for the Consumer Price Index (CPI). As part of the new sample, Los Angeles and Riverside have separate indexes. The first indexes using the new structure are published for the first time this month. Additional information on the geographic revision is available at: www.bls.gov/cpi/additional-resources/geographic-revision-2018.htm.

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 93 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers 29 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 75 urban areas across the country from about 5,000 housing units and approximately 22,000 retail establishments--department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/homch17_a.htm.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **NOTE: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim. metropolitan area covered in this release is comprised of Los Angeles and Orange Counties in the State of California.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Mar. 2018	Apr. 2018	May 2018	May 2017	Mar. 2018	Apr. 2018
Expenditure category						
All items	264.158	265.095	266.148	4.1	0.8	0.4
All items (1967=100)	780.441	783.207	786.319	-	-	-
Food and beverages	258.222	260.079	259.252	1.5	0.4	-0.3
Food	258.777	260.623	259.611	1.6	0.3	-0.4
Food at home	255.143	257.249	255.115	0.1	0.0	-0.8
Cereals and bakery products	264.806	262.157	258.547	-	-2.4	-1.4
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	273.788	280.771	276.998	-	1.2	-1.3
Dairy and related products	240.792	243.081	243.136	-	1.0	0.0
Fruits and vegetables	340.905	344.170	342.775	-	0.5	-0.4
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1)	256.945	259.957	260.211	-	1.3	0.1
Other food at home	206.279	205.510	202.990	-	-1.6	-1.2
Food away from home	259.111	260.662	260.832	3.4	0.7	0.1
Food away from home	259.111	260.662	260.832	3.4	0.7	0.1
Alcoholic beverages	235.057	236.947	238.649	0.0	1.5	0.7
Housing	297.597	299.048	300.896	4.8	1.1	0.6
Shelter	342.368	344.663	346.704	5.6	1.3	0.6
Rent of primary residence(2)	360.197	361.853	362.688	5.0	0.7	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(2)(3)	355.109	357.725	358.741	5.4	1.0	0.3
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)(2)	355.088	357.704	358.720	5.4	1.0	0.3
Fuels and utilities	313.553	309.868	320.397	2.0	2.2	3.4
Household energy	266.350	261.504	274.524	0.5	3.1	5.0
Energy services(2)	264.960	260.036	273.095	0.4	3.1	5.0
Electricity(2)	314.409	313.199	313.199	2.4	-0.4	0.0
Utility (piped) gas service(2)	199.139	186.105	227.144	-5.9	14.1	22.1
Household furnishings and operations	117.664	117.630	116.160	-0.4	-1.3	-1.2
Apparel	115.021	114.195	107.820	-0.4	-6.3	-5.6
Transportation	210.389	213.267	216.802	8.9	3.0	1.7
Private transportation	207.223	209.653	212.498	9.6	2.5	1.4
New and used motor vehicles(4)	91.964	92.077	92.071	-	0.1	0.0
New vehicles(1)	168.677	169.728	169.306	-	0.4	-0.2
Used cars and trucks(1)	269.645	268.930	267.205	-	-0.9	-0.6
Motor fuel	267.930	277.701	288.201	23.6	7.6	3.8
Gasoline (all types)	261.783	271.328	281.580	23.4	7.6	3.8
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4)	262.317	271.996	282.335	23.6	7.6	3.8
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5)	251.497	260.162	269.950	22.9	7.3	3.8
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4)	249.697	258.276	267.712	22.4	7.2	3.7
Motor vehicle insurance(1)	748.204	748.204	758.909	-	1.4	1.4
Medical care	479.468	478.342	480.668	2.5	0.3	0.5
Recreation(6)	107.255	104.097	105.700	-1.6	-1.4	1.5
Education and communication(6)	143.910	143.872	144.240	1.5	0.2	0.3
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(1) ..	1,775.997	1,775.946	1,775.946	-	0.0	0.0
Other goods and services	426.264	428.541	428.442	5.1	0.5	0.0
Commodity and service group						
All items	264.158	265.095	266.148	4.1	0.8	0.4
Commodities	181.734	183.180	182.353	3.2	0.3	-0.5
Commodities less food & beverages	141.151	142.349	141.575	4.3	0.3	-0.5
Nondurables less food & beverages	192.270	194.773	193.946	8.8	0.9	-0.4
Durables	91.866	91.917	91.224	-3.0	-0.7	-0.8
Services	337.544	338.034	340.747	4.6	0.9	0.8

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Mar. 2018	Apr. 2018	May 2018	May 2017	Mar. 2018	Apr. 2018
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	254.794	255.804	256.804	4.2	0.8	0.4
All items less shelter.....	229.885	230.208	230.818	3.1	0.4	0.3
Commodities less food	145.383	146.614	145.895	4.1	0.4	-0.5
Nondurables	226.959	229.225	228.379	4.9	0.6	-0.4
Nondurables less food.....	197.226	199.730	199.029	8.2	0.9	-0.4
Services less rent of shelter(3).....	339.702	337.602	341.387	3.0	0.5	1.1
Services less medical care services.....	325.325	326.005	328.759	4.8	1.1	0.8
Energy	269.295	274.038	285.492	14.5	6.0	4.2
All items less energy	265.909	266.600	266.971	3.4	0.4	0.1
All items less food and energy	267.434	267.945	268.532	3.7	0.4	0.2

Footnotes

(1) Indexes on a December 1977=100 base.

(2) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

(3) Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

(4) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(5) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

(6) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

- Data not available

NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.